

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 2-3, 6 and 11 have been canceled, without prejudice. Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 1, 4, 5, 7-10 and 12-30 will be pending. The above amendments have revised claim 1 to include the details of claim 6, and cancel claim 6, with out prejudice.

The Examiner's indication that claims 6-8, 12-15, 18-21 and 24-25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is acknowledged with appreciation. See page 4 of the Office Action dated July 19, 2006.

Entry of the present Amendment and allowance of the claims are requested.

The Section 103 rejection of claims 1, 4, 9-10, 16-17, 22-23 and 26-30 over Bradbury (U.S. Patent No. 6,187,084) in view of Koitabashi (U.S. Patent No. 6,454,402) and Uchiyama (U.S. Patent No. 5,748,208) is obviated by the above amendments. For completeness, the applicants note the Examiner's comment regarding the amounts of each component in Bradbury and that resin 1 of Bradbury comprises approximately 5.49 mol% sodium-5-sulfoisophthalic acid. This ratio is believed to be based however on the entire monomer. When this ratio is converted based on carboxylic acid ingredient, the obtained value is believed to be approximately 12.0 mol%. The value thus obtained is not believed to be included in the range stated in claim 1. Entry of the present Amendment and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

The Section 103 rejection of claim 5 over Koitabashi (U.S. Patent No. 6,454,402) and Uchiyama (U.S. Patent No. 5,748,208) and Sharma (U.S. Patent No. 5,464,883) is

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obviated by the above amendments. Entry of the Amendment and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

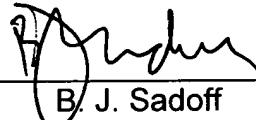
The claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance upon entry of the present Amendment. The Amendment does not raise new issues requiring further search and/or consideration. No new issues are raised by the present Amendment. Entry of the Amendment and allowance of the application are requested.

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned in the event anything further is required.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:


B. J. Sadoff
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100